

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2852

To require the Secretary of Defense to provide to firefighters of the Department of Defense medical testing and related services to detect and prevent certain cancers.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 25, 2023

Ms. SLOTKIN (for herself and Mr. BACON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

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## A BILL

To require the Secretary of Defense to provide to firefighters of the Department of Defense medical testing and related services to detect and prevent certain cancers.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Federal Firefighter  
5 Cancer Detection and Prevention Act of 2023”.

1 **SEC. 2. MEDICAL TESTING AND RELATED SERVICES FOR**  
2 **FIREFIGHTERS OF DEPARTMENT OF DE-**  
3 **FENSE.**

4 (a) **PROVISION OF SERVICES.**—During the annual  
5 periodic health assessment of each firefighter of the De-  
6 partment of Defense, or at such other intervals as may  
7 be indicated in this subsection, the Secretary shall provide  
8 to the firefighter (at no cost to the firefighter) appropriate  
9 medical testing and related services to detect, document  
10 the presence or absence of, and prevent, certain cancers.  
11 Such services shall meet, at a minimum, the following cri-  
12 teria:

13 (1) **BREAST CANCER.**—With respect to the  
14 breast cancer screening, if the firefighter is a female  
15 firefighter—

16 (A) such services shall include the provi-  
17 sion of a mammogram to the firefighter—

18 (i) on at least a biannual basis if the  
19 firefighter is 40 years old to 49 years old  
20 (inclusive);

21 (ii) on at least an annual basis if the  
22 firefighter is at least 50 years old; and

23 (iii) as clinically indicated (without re-  
24 gard to age); and

25 (B) in connection with such provision, a li-  
26 censed radiologist shall review the most recent

1           mammogram provided to the firefighter, as  
2           compared to prior mammograms so provided,  
3           and provide to the firefighter the results of such  
4           review.

5           (2) COLON CANCER.—With respect to colon  
6           cancer screening—

7                   (A) if the firefighter is at least 40 years  
8                   old, and as otherwise clinically indicated, such  
9                   services shall include the communication to the  
10                  firefighter of the risks and benefits of stool-  
11                  based blood testing;

12                   (B) if the firefighter is at least 45 years  
13                   old, and as clinically indicated (without regard  
14                   to age), such services shall include the provi-  
15                   sion, at regular intervals, of visual examinations  
16                   (such as a colonoscopy, CT colonoscopy, or  
17                   flexible sigmoidoscopy) or stool-based blood  
18                   testing; and

19                   (C) in connection with such provision, a li-  
20                   censed physician shall review and provide to the  
21                   firefighter the results of such examination or  
22                   testing, as the case may be.

23           (3) PROSTATE CANCER.—With respect to pros-  
24           tate cancer screening, if the firefighter is a male  
25           firefighter, the communication to the firefighter of

1 the risks and benefits of prostate cancer screenings  
2 and the provision to the firefighter of a prostate-spe-  
3 cific antigen test—

4 (A) on an annual basis, if the firefighter is  
5 at least 50 years old;

6 (B) on an annual basis, if the firefighter is  
7 at least 40 years old and is a high-risk indi-  
8 vidual; and

9 (C) as clinically indicated (without regard  
10 to age).

11 (4) OTHER CANCERS.—Such services shall in-  
12 clude routine screenings for any other cancer the  
13 risk or occurrence of which the Director of the Cen-  
14 ters for Disease Control and Prevention has identi-  
15 fied as higher among firefighters than among the  
16 general public, the provision of which shall be car-  
17 ried out during the annual periodic health assess-  
18 ment of the firefighter.

19 (b) OPTIONAL NATURE.—A firefighter of the Depart-  
20 ment of Defense may opt out of the receipt of a medical  
21 testing or related service provided under subsection (a).

22 (c) USE OF CONSENSUS TECHNICAL STANDARDS.—  
23 In providing medical testing and related services under  
24 subsection (a), the Secretary shall use consensus technical  
25 standards in accordance with section 12(d) of the National

1 Technology Transfer and Advancement Act of 1995 (15  
2 U.S.C. 272 note).

3 (d) DOCUMENTATION.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—In providing medical testing  
5 and related services under subsection (a), the Sec-  
6 retary—

7 (A) shall document the acceptance rates of  
8 such tests offered and the rates of such tests  
9 performed;

10 (B) shall document tests results, to iden-  
11 tify trends in the rates of cancer occurrences  
12 among firefighters; and

13 (C) may collect and maintain additional in-  
14 formation from the recipients of such tests and  
15 other services, to allow for appropriate scientific  
16 analysis.

17 (2) PRIVACY.—In analyzing any information of  
18 an individual documented, collected, or maintained  
19 under paragraph (1), in addition to complying with  
20 other applicable privacy laws, the Secretary shall en-  
21 sure the name, and any other personally identifiable  
22 information, of the individual is removed from such  
23 information prior to the analysis.

24 (3) SHARING WITH CENTERS FOR DISEASE  
25 CONTROL AND PREVENTION.—The Secretary may

1 share data from any tests performed under sub-  
2 section (a) with the Director of the Centers for Dis-  
3 ease Control and Prevention, as appropriate, to in-  
4 crease the knowledge and understanding of cancer  
5 occurrences among firefighters.

6 (e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

7 (1) The term “firefighter” has the meaning  
8 given that term in section 707 of the National De-  
9 fense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Pub-  
10 lic Law 116–92; 133 Stat. 1441; 10 U.S.C. 1074m  
11 note).

12 (2) The term “high-risk individual” means an  
13 individual who—

14 (A) is African American;

15 (B) has at least one first-degree relative  
16 who has been diagnosed with prostate cancer at  
17 an early age; or

18 (C) is otherwise determined by the Sec-  
19 retary to be high risk with respect to prostate  
20 cancer.

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